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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Item 69 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 25 May 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a note by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine of 23 May 1992 addressed to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation in connection with the adoption by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of 21 May 1992 of the Enactment on the Legal Evaluation of the Decisions on the Crimea Status Change Taken by the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic Supreme Bodies of State Power in 1954.

I would like to have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Victor H. BATIOUK
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the United Nations

* A/47/50.

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ANNEX

[Original: Russian]

Note dated 23 May 1992 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine addressed to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine presents its compliments to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and, with reference to the adoption by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation on 21 May 1992 of an Enactment on the Legal Evaluation of the Decisions on the Crimea Status Change taken in 1954, has the honour to state the following.

The adoption by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of this Enactment is regarded by Ukraine as a step which runs counter to the norms and principles of contemporary international law and could have dangerous and unpredictable consequences. It is aimed at undermining such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as the principles of territorial integrity of States and inviolability of borders.

The unilateral attempt, through legislative means, to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the existing borders between two sovereign States members of the United Nations and participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the failure to comply with the obligations entered into inter alia under the Treaty between the Ukrainian SSR and the RSFSR of 19 November 1990 and the Agreement on the Establishment of the Commonwealth of Independent States, of 8 December 1991, could lead to a breakdown of stability on the continent.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine again draws attention to the undisputable fact that the issue of the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR was settled in accordance with the legislation in force at that time, including the constitutions of the USSR, the RSFSR and the Ukrainian SSR.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine declares that Ukraine has no territorial pretentions to other States and simultaneously rejects any territorial claims against itself.

Ukraine is acknowledged by the States of the world, including the Russian Federation, within its existing boundaries, which include the territory of the Crimea. Accordingly, the issue of the status of the Crimea is an internal affair of Ukraine and cannot be the subject of negotiations with any other State.

Ukraine is striving to develop good-neighbourly relations with the Russian Federation, in the belief that this type of relations is fully in accordance with the national interests of the peoples of both States.